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Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 2H2 (CA). **KORNELUK, Robert, G.** [—/CA]; 1901 Tweed, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 2L8 (CA).

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(74) Agents: **ROBINSON, J. et al.**; Smart & Biggar, Box 11560, Vancouver Centre, 650 West Georgia Street, Suite 2200, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 4N8 (CA).

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(71) Applicants (*for all designated States except US*): **AEGERA THERAPEUTICS INC.** [CA/CA]; 810 Chemin du Golf, Verdun, Quebec H3E 1A8 (CA). **THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA** [CA/CA]; I.R.C. Building, Room 331, 2194 Health Sciences Mall, Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1Z3 (CA).

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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **VERCHERE, Bruce** [CA/CA]; 708 West 22nd Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V5Z 1Z7 (CA). **TAN, Rusung** [CA/CA]; 2016 West 43rd Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V6M 2C9 (CA). **LISTON, Peter** [—/CA]; 1 Second

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(54) Title: **METHOD OF TREATING DIABETES**

(57) **Abstract:** The invention features methods for the treatment of diabetes by administering a IAP nucleic acid sequence to a subject. One method includes the steps of. (a) providing one or more insulin-producing cells or one or more precursor cells capable of producing progeny cells that produce insulin; (b) transducing the cells with a nucleic acid sequence encoding an IAP polypeptide, the nucleic acid sequence positioned for expression of the IAP polypeptide in the cells, wherein expression of the IAP polypeptide increases survival of the cells relative to untreated control cells; and (c) transplanting the cells from step (b) that have been transduced with a nucleic acid sequence encoding an IAP polypeptide into the individual, wherein the cells produce insulin in amounts sufficient to treat diabetes in the individual.